

IMP

The differences of *impossible* and not *impossible*, figurable and not figurable, are plebeian notions. *Bacon's Natural Hist.*
IMPRESSION. *n. f.* [from *impress*.] The mark made by pressure; the dent; the impression.

Lean but upon a ruff,
 The cicatrice and capable *impression*.
 Thy palm some moments keeps. *Shakesp. As you like it.*
 To *IMPRINT*. *v. a.* [*imprimer*, French.]
 1. To mark upon any substance by pressure.

One and the same seal, *imprinted* upon pieces of wax of different colours.
Holder's Elements of Speech.
 Having surveyed the image of God in the soul of man, we are not to omit those characters of majesty that God *imprinted* upon the body.

She amidst his spacious meadows flows;
 Inclines her urn upon his fatten'd lands,
 And sees his numerous herds *imprint* her fands. *Prior.*
 2. To stamp words upon paper by the use of types.

3. To fix on the mind or memory.
 There is a kind of conveying of effectual and *imprinting* passages, amongst compliments, which is of singular use. *Bac.*
 When we sit before our eyes a round globe, the idea *imprinted* in our mind is of a flat circle, variously shadowed. *Loc.*

We have all those ideas in our understandings which we can make the objects of our thoughts, without the help of those sensible qualities which first *imprinted* them. *Locke.*
 Retention is the power to revive again in our minds those ideas, which, after *imprinting*, have disappeared. *Locke.*
 By familiar acquaintance he has got the ideas of those two different things distinctly *imprinted* on his mind. *Locke.*

To *IMPRISON*. *v. a.* [*emprisonner*, Fr. *in* and *prison*.] To shut up; to confine; to keep from liberty.
 He *imprison'd* was in chains remediless;
 For that Hippolytus' rent corse he did redress. *Fa. Queen.*

Now we are in the street, he first of all,
 Improvidently proud, creeps to the wall;
 And so *imprison'd* and hemm'd in by me,
 Sells for a little state his liberty. *Donne.*

Try to *imprison* the restless wind;
 So swift is guilt, so hard to be confin'd. *Dryden.*
 If a man *imprisons* himself in his closet, and employs reason to find out the nature of the corporeal world, without experiments, he will frame a scheme of chimeras.

It is not improbable, that all the virtual heat in the juices of vegetables, metals, and minerals may be owing to the action of the *imprisoned* rays. *Watts.*
IMPRISONMENT. *n. f.* [*emprisonnement*, Fr. from *imprison*.] Confinement; claufure; state of being shut in prison. It may be written *emprisonment*.

His sinews waxen weak and raw,
 Through long *imprisonment* and hard constraint. *F. Queen.*
 Which shall I first bewail,
 Thy bondage or lost fight,
 Thou art become, O worst *imprisonment*!
 The dungeon of thyself. *Milton's Agonistes.*

From retentive cage
 When fullen Philomel escapes, her notes
 She varies, and of past *imprisonment*
 Sweetly complains. *Phillips.*
 Count Serini, still close prisoner in this castle, lost his senses by his long *imprisonment* and afflictions. *Addison.*

It is well if they don't fix the brand of heresy on the man who is leading them out of their long *imprisonment*, and loosing the fetters of their souls. *Watts's Impr. of the Mind.*
IMPROBABILITY. *n. f.* [from *improbable*.] Unlikelihood; difficulty to be believed.

The difficulty being so great, and the *improbability* of attempting this successfully, it was but reason that a solid foundation should be laid. *Hammond.*
 As to the *improbabilities* of a spirit appearing, I boldly answer him, that a heroic poet is not tied to the bare representation of what is true, or exceeding probable. *Dryden.*

IMPROBABLE. *adj.* [*improbable*, Fr. *improbabilis*, Lat. *in* and *probable*.] Unlikely; incredible.
 This account of party-patches will appear *improbable* to those who live at a distance from the fashionable world. *Addison.*
IMPROBABLY. *adv.* [from *improbable*.]

1. Without likelihood.
 2. In a manner not to be approved. *Obsolete.*
 Aristotle tells us, if a drop of wine be put into ten thousand measures of water, the wine being overpowered, will be turned into water: he speaks very *improbably*. *Boyle.*

To *IMPROVE*. *v. a.* [*in* and *probo*, Latin.] Not to approve.
IMPROBATION. *n. f.* [*improbatio*, Latin; *improbation*, French.] Act of disallowing. *Ansforth.*
IMPROBITY. *n. f.* [*improbitas*, *improbus*, Latin.] Want of honesty; dishonesty; baseness.

He was perhaps excommunicable, yea, and cast out for notorious *improbitas*.
 We balance the *improbability* of the one with the *improbability* of the other. *Hooker.*

1. To advance any thing nearer to perfection; to raise from good to better. *We amend a bad, but improve a good thing.*
 I love not to *improve* the honour of the living by impairing that of the dead. *Denham.*
 Heaven seems *improv'd* with a superior ray,
 And the bright arch reflects a double day. *Pope.*

2. To *improve*; to *improve*, Fr. *improbo*, Lat.] To disprove. *Hooker.*
 Though the prophet Jeremy was unjustly accused, yet doth not that *improve* any thing that I have said. *Whitgift.*

IMP

To *IMPROLIFICATE*. *v. a.* [*in* and *prolific*.] To impregnate; to fecundate. A word not used.
 A difficulty in the doctrine of eggs is how the sperm of the cock *improlificates*, and makes the oval conception fruitful. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

IMPROPER. *adj.* [*impropre*, Fr. *impropius*, Latin.]
 1. Not well adapted; unqualified.
 As every science requires a peculiar genius, so likewise there is a genius peculiarly *improper* for every one. *Burnet.*

2. Unfit; not conducive to the right end.
 The methods used in an original disease would be very *improper* in a gouty case. *Arbutnot on Dia.*
 3. Not just; not accurate.
 He disappear'd, was rarify'd;
 For 'tis *improper* speech to say he dy'd:
 He was exhal'd. *Dryden.*

IMPROPERLY. *adv.* [from *improper*.]
 1. Not fitly; incongruously.
 2. Not justly; not accurately.
Improperly we measure life by breath;
 Such do not truly live who merit death. *Dryd. Juvenal.*

They assure me of their assistance in correcting my faults where I spoke *improperly*, I was encouraged. *Dryden.*
 To *IMPROPRIATE*. *v. a.* [*in* and *proprius*, Latin.]
 1. To convert to private use; to seize to himself.
 For the pardon of the rest, the king thought it not fit it should pass by parliament; the better, being matter of grace, to *impropriate* the thanks to himself. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

2. To put the possessions of the church into the hands of laicks.
 Mrs. Gullion being possessed of the *impropriate* parsonage of Bardwell in Suffolk, did procure from the king leave to annex the same to the vicarage. *Speiman.*

IMPROPRIATION. *n. f.* [from *impropriate*.]
 An *impropriation* is properly so called when the church land is in the hands of a layman; and an appropriation is when it is in the hands of a bishop, college, or religious house, though sometimes these terms are confounded. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

Having an *impropriation* in his estate, he took a course to dispose of it for the augmentation of the vicarage. *Speiman.*
IMPROPRIATOR. *n. f.* [from *impropriate*.] A layman that has the possession of the lands of the church.
 Where the vicar leases his glebe, the tenant must pay the great tithes to the rector or *impropriator*. *Ayliffe's Parergon.*

IMPROPRIETY. *n. f.* [*improprietas*, Fr. from *improprius*, Latin.] Unfitness; unsuitableness; inaccuracy; want of justness.
 These mighty ones, whose ambition could suffer them to be called gods, would never be flattered into immortality; but the proudest have been convinced of the *impropriety* of that appellation. *Brown's Vulg. Errors.*

Many gross *improprieties*, however authorized by practice, ought to be discarded. *Swift.*
IMPROSPEROUS. *adj.* [*in* and *prosperous*.] Unhappy; unfortunate; not successful.
 This method is in the design probable, how *improsperous* forever the wickedness of men hath rendered the success of it. *Hammond on Fundamentals.*

Our pride seduces us at once into the guilt of bold, and punishment of *improsperous* rebels. *Decay of Piety.*
 Seven revolving years are wholly run,
 Since the *improsperous* voyage we begun. *Dryden's Æn.*

IMPROSPEROUSLY. *adv.* [from *improsperous*.] Unhappily; unsuccessfully; with ill fortune.
 This experiment has been but very *improsperously* attempted. *Boyle.*

IMPROVABLE. *adj.* [from *improve*.] Capable of being advanced from a good to a better state; capable of melioration.
 Adventures in knowledge are laudable, and the essays of weaker heads afford *improvable* hints unto better. *Brown.*

We have flock enough, and that too of so *improvable* a nature, that is, capable of infinite advancement. *Decay of Piety.*
 Man is accommodated with moral principles, *improvable* by the exercise of his faculties. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

Animals are not *improvable* beyond their proper genius: a dog will never learn to mew, nor a cat to bark. *Grew's Cosmology.*
 I have a fine spread of *improvable* lands, and am already planting woods and draining marshes. *Addison's Spectator.*

IMPROVABLENESS. *n. f.* [from *improvable*.] Capableness of being made better.
IMPROVABLY. *adv.* [from *improvable*.] In a manner that admits of melioration.

To *IMPROVE*. *v. a.* [*in* and *probo*. *Quasi probo facere*. *Skinner.*]
 1. To advance any thing nearer to perfection; to raise from good to better. *We amend a bad, but improve a good thing.*
 I love not to *improve* the honour of the living by impairing that of the dead. *Denham.*

Heaven seems *improv'd* with a superior ray,
 And the bright arch reflects a double day. *Pope.*
 2. To *improve*; to *improve*, Fr. *improbo*, Lat.] To disprove. *Hooker.*
 Though the prophet Jeremy was unjustly accused, yet doth not that *improve* any thing that I have said. *Whitgift.*

1. To advance in goodness.
 We take care to *improve* in our frugality and diligence; virtues which become us, particularly in times of war. *Atterb.*
IMPROVEMENT. *n. f.* [from *improve*.]
 1. Melioration; advancement of any thing from good to better.
 Some virtues tend to the preservation of health, and others to the *improvement* and security of estates. *Tillotson.*

2. Act of improving.
 The parts of Simon, Camilla, and some few others, are *improvements* on the Greek poet. *Addison's Spectator.*
 3. Progress from good to better.
 There is a design of publishing the history of architecture, with its several *improvements* and decays. *Addison.*

4. Instruction; edification.
 I look upon your city as the best place of *improvement*: from the school we go to the university, but from the universities to London. *South.*
 5. Effect of melioration.
 Love is the greatest of human affections, and friendship the noblest and most refined *improvement* of love. *South.*

IMPROVER. *n. f.* [from *improve*.]
 1. One that makes himself or any thing else better.
 They were the greatest *improvers* of those qualifications with which courts used to be adorned. *Clarendon.*
 The first started ideas have been examined, and many effectually confuted by the late *improvers* of this way. *Locke.*
 Homer is like a skilful *improver*, who places a beautiful statue so as to answer several views. *Pope.*

2. Any thing that meliorates.
 Chalk is a very great *improver* of moist lands. *Martiner.*
IMPROVIDED. *adj.* [*improvisus*, Latin; *improvisus*, Fr.] Unprovided; unexpected; unprovided against.
 She suborned hath
 This crafty messenger with letters vain,
 To work new woes, and *improvided* catch,
 By breaking off the band betwixt us twain. *Fairy Queen.*

IMPROVIDENCE. *n. f.* [from *improvident*.] Want of forethought; want of caution.
 Men would escape floods by running up to mountains; and though some might perish through *improvidence*, or through the sudden inundation of a deluge, many would escape. *Hale.*
 The *improvidence* of my neighbour must not make me inhuman. *L'Estrange.*

IMPROVIDENT. *adj.* [*improvidus*, Latin.] Wanting forecast; wanting care to provide.
Improvident soldiers, had your watch been good,
 This sudden mischief never could have fall'n. *Shak. H. VI.*
 When men well have fed, the blood being warm,
 Then are they most *improvident* of harm. *Daniel's Ci. War.*
 I shall conclude this digression, and return to the time when that brisk and *improvident* resolution was taken. *Clarendon.*
 This were an *improvident* revenge in the young ones, whereby, in defect of provision, they must destroy themselves. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

IMPROVIDENTLY. *adv.* [from *improvident*.] Without forethought; without care.
 Now we are in the street, he first of all,
 Improvidently proud, creeps to the wall;
 And so *imprison'd*, and hemm'd in by me,
 Sells for a little state his liberty. *Donne.*

IMPROVISION. *n. f.* [*in* and *provisio*.] Want of forethought.
 Her *improvision* would be justly accusable. *Brown.*
IMPRUDENCE. *n. f.* [*imprudens*, Fr. *imprudens*, Lat.] Want of prudence; indiscretion; negligence; inattention to interest.
IMPRUDENT. *adj.* [*imprudens*, Fr. *imprudens*, Lat.] Wanting prudence; injudicious; indiscreet; negligent.
 There is no such *imprudent* person as he that neglects God and his soul. *Tillotson.*

IMPUDENCE. *n. f.* [*impudens*, Fr. *impudentia*, Lat.] Shamelessness; lewdness; immodesty.
 I ne'er heard yet
 That any of these bolder vices wanted
 Less *impudence* to gain what they did,
 Than to perform it first. *Shakesp. Winter's Tale.*
 Nor did Noah's open infirmity justify Cham's *impudence*, or exempt him from that curse of being servant of servants. *King Charles.*

Those clear truths, that either their own evidence forces us to admit, or common experience makes it *impudence* to deny. *Locke.*
IMPUDENT. *adj.* [*impudens*, Fr. *impudens*, Latin.] Shameless; wanting modesty.
 It is not a confident brow, nor the throng of words that come with such more than *impudent* sauciness from you, can thrust me from a level consideration. *Shakesp. Henry IV.*
 When we behold an angel, not to fear,
 Is to be *impudent*. *Dryd. Spanish Fryar.*

IMPUDENTLY. *adv.* [from *impudent*.] Shamelessly; without modesty.
 At once assail
 With open mouths, and *impudently* rail. *Sandys.*

IMP

Why should soft Fabius *impudently* bear
 Names gain'd by conquest in the Gallick war?
 Why lays he claim to Hercules his strain,
 Yet dares be base, effeminate, and vain? *Dryden.*
 To *IMPUGN*. *v. a.* [*impugnare*, Fr. *impugno*, Lat.] To attack; to assault.

Of a strange nature is the suit you follow;
 Yet in such rule, that the Venetian law
 Cannot *impugn* you. *Shakesp. Merch. of Venice.*
 I cannot think myself engaged to discourse of lots, as to their nature, use, and allowableness; and that not only in matters of moment and business, but also of recreation, which is indeed *impugned* by some, though better defended by others. *South's Sermons.*

St. Hierom reporteth, that he saw one of these in his time; but the truth hereof I will not rashly *impugn*, or over-boldly affirm. *Peachment on Drawing.*
IMPUGNER. *n. f.* [from *impugnare*.] One that attacks or invades.

IMPUGNANCE. *n. f.* [French.] Impotence; inability; weakness; feebleness.
 As he would not trust Ferdinando and Maximilian for supports of war, so the *impugnance* of the one, and the double proceeding of the other, lay fair for him for occasions to accept of peace. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

IMPULSE. *n. f.* [*impulsus*, Latin.]
 1. Communicated force; the effect of one body acting upon another.
 If these little *impulses* set the great wheels of devotion on work, the largeness and height of that shall not at all be prejudiced by the smallness of its occasion. *South's Sermons.*
 Bodies produce ideas in us manifestly by *impulse*. *Locke.*
 Bodies, from the *impulse* of a fluid, can only gravitate in proportion to their surfaces, and not according to their quantity of matter, which is contrary to experience. *Chyene.*

2. Influence acting upon the mind; motive; idea.
 Mean time, by Jove's *impulse*, Mezentius arm'd,
 Succeeded Turnus. *Dryden's Æn.*
 These were my natural *impulses* for the undertaking; but there was an accidental motive, which was full as forcible. *Dry.*
 Moses saw the bush burn without being consumed, and heard a voice out of it: this was something, besides finding an *impulse* upon his mind to go to Pharaoh, that he might bring his brethren out of Egypt. *Locke.*

3. Hostile impression.
 Like two great rocks against the raging tide,
 Unmov'd the two united chiefs abide,
 Sustain th' *impulse*, and receive the war. *Prior.*

IMPULSION. *n. f.* [*impulsion*, Fr. *impulsus*, Latin.]
 1. The agency of body in motion upon body.
 The motion in the minute parts of any solid body passeth without sound; for that sound that is heard sometimes is produced only by the breaking of the air, and not by the *impulsion* of the air. *Bacon's Natural History.*

To the *impulsion* there is requisite the force of the body that moveth, and the resistance of the body that is moved; and if the body be too great, it yieldeth too little; and if it be too small, it resisteth too little. *Bacon's Natural History.*
 2. Influence operating upon the mind.
 But thou didst plead
 Divine *impulsion*, prompting how thou might'st
 Find some occasion to infect our foes. *Milton's Agonistes.*

IMPULSIVE. *adj.* [*impulsif*, Fr. from *impulsus*.] Having the power of impulse; moving; impellent.
 Nature and duty bind him to obedience;
 But those being placed in a lower sphere,
 His fierce ambition, like the highest mover,
 Has hurried with a strong *impulsive* motion
 Against their proper course. *Denham's Sophy.*

What is the fountain or *impulsive* cause of this prevention of sin? It is perfectly free grace. *South's Sermons.*
 Poor men! poor papers! we and they
 Do some *impulsive* force obey,
 And are but play'd with, do not play. *Prior.*

IMPUNITY. *n. f.* [*impunitas*, Fr. *impunitas*, Latin.] Freedom from punishment; exemption from punishment.
 In the condition of subjects they will gladly continue, as long as they may be protected and justly governed, without oppression on the one side, or *impunity* on the other. *Davies.*
 A general *impunity* would confirm them; for the vulgar will never be brought to believe, that there is a crime where they see no penalty. *Addison's Freeholder.*

Men, potent in the commonwealth, will employ their ill-gotten influence towards procuring *impunity*, or extorting undue favours for themselves or dependents. *Atterbury's Sermons.*
IMPURE. *adj.* [*impur*, Fr. *impurus*, Latin.]
 1. Contrary to sanctity; unhallowed; unholy.
 No more can *impure* man retain and move
 In that pure region of a worthy love,
 Than earthly substance can unford's aspire,
 And leave his nature to converse with fire. *Donne.*

Hypocrites austere talk,
 Condemning as *impure* what God has made
 Pure, and commands to some, leaves free to all. *Milton.*
 2. Unchaste.

Why should soft Fabius *impudently* bear
 Names gain'd by conquest in the Gallick war?
 Why lays he claim to Hercules his strain,
 Yet dares be base, effeminate, and vain? *Dryden.*
 To *IMPUGN*. *v. a.* [*impugnare*, Fr. *impugno*, Lat.] To attack; to assault.

Of a strange nature is the suit you follow;
 Yet in such rule, that the Venetian law
 Cannot *impugn* you. *Shakesp. Merch. of Venice.*
 I cannot think myself engaged to discourse of lots, as to their nature, use, and allowableness; and that not only in matters of moment and business, but also of recreation, which is indeed *impugned* by some, though better defended by others. *South's Sermons.*

St. Hierom reporteth, that he saw one of these in his time; but the truth hereof I will not rashly *impugn*, or over-boldly affirm. *Peachment on Drawing.*
IMPUGNER. *n. f.* [from *impugnare*.] One that attacks or invades.

IMPUGNANCE. *n. f.* [French.] Impotence; inability; weakness; feebleness.
 As he would not trust Ferdinando and Maximilian for supports of war, so the *impugnance* of the one, and the double proceeding of the other, lay fair for him for occasions to accept of peace. *Bacon's Henry VII.*

IMPULSE. *n. f.* [*impulsus*, Latin.]
 1. Communicated force; the effect of one body acting upon another.
 If these little *impulses* set the great wheels of devotion on work, the largeness and height of that shall not at all be prejudiced by the smallness of its occasion. *South's Sermons.*
 Bodies produce ideas in us manifestly by *impulse*. *Locke.*
 Bodies, from the *impulse* of a fluid, can only gravitate in proportion to their surfaces, and not according to their quantity of matter, which is contrary to experience. *Chyene.*

2. Influence acting upon the mind; motive; idea.
 Mean time, by Jove's *impulse*, Mezentius arm'd,
 Succeeded Turnus. *Dryden's Æn.*
 These were my natural *impulses* for the undertaking; but there was an accidental motive, which was full as forcible. *Dry.*
 Moses saw the bush burn without being consumed, and heard a voice out of it: this was something, besides finding an *impulse* upon his mind to go to Pharaoh, that he might bring his brethren out of Egypt. *Locke.*

3. Hostile impression.
 Like two great rocks against the raging tide,
 Unmov'd the two united chiefs abide,
 Sustain th' *impulse*, and receive the war. *Prior.*

IMPULSION. *n. f.* [*impulsion*, Fr. *impulsus*, Latin.]
 1. The agency of body in motion upon body.
 The motion in the minute parts of any solid body passeth without sound; for that sound that is heard sometimes is produced only by the breaking of the air, and not by the *impulsion* of the air. *Bacon's Natural History.*

To the *impulsion* there is requisite the force of the body that moveth, and the resistance of the body that is moved; and if the body be too great, it yieldeth too little; and if it be too small, it resisteth too little. *Bacon's Natural History.*
 2. Influence operating upon the mind.
 But thou didst plead
 Divine *impulsion*, prompting how thou might'st
 Find some occasion to infect our foes. *Milton's Agonistes.*

IMPULSIVE. *adj.* [*impulsif*, Fr. from *impulsus*.] Having the power of impulse; moving; impellent.
 Nature and duty bind him to obedience;
 But those being placed in a lower sphere,
 His fierce ambition, like the highest mover,
 Has hurried with a strong *impulsive* motion
 Against their proper course. *Denham's Sophy.*

What is the fountain or *impulsive* cause of this prevention of sin? It is perfectly free grace. *South's Sermons.*
 Poor men! poor papers! we and they
 Do some *impulsive* force obey,
 And are but play'd with, do not play. *Prior.*

IMPUNITY. *n. f.* [*impunitas*, Fr. *impunitas*, Latin.] Freedom from punishment; exemption from punishment.
 In the condition of subjects they will gladly continue, as long as they may be protected and justly governed, without oppression on the one side, or *impunity* on the other. *Davies.*
 A general *impunity* would confirm them; for the vulgar will never be brought to believe, that there is a crime where they see no penalty. *Addison's Freeholder.*

Men, potent in the commonwealth, will employ their ill-gotten influence towards procuring *impunity*, or extorting undue favours for themselves or dependents. *Atterbury's Sermons.*
IMPURE. *adj.* [*impur*, Fr. *impurus*, Latin.]
 1. Contrary to sanctity; unhallowed; unholy.
 No more can *impure* man retain and move
 In that pure region of a worthy love,
 Than earthly substance can unford's aspire,
 And leave his nature to converse with fire. *Donne.*

Hypocrites austere talk,
 Condemning as *impure* what God has made
 Pure, and commands to some, leaves free to all. *Milton.*
 2. Unchaste.